

REMARKS

Claims 28-35 have been cancelled.

Claims 1-11, 13-25 and 27 are allowed.

Section 103 Rejections

Claims 12 and 26 have been rejected as being obvious in view of Kato and Wilson. Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is overcome for the reasons set forth below.

Amended claim 12 now includes features which are not suggested by the cited references, namely:

- **the marking is formed on a track of the optical disk.**

Basis for trimming the reflective film to form a marking on a track of the optical disk may be seen, for example, in Figs. 13A and Fig. 16. As shown in Fig. 13A, marking number 1 is **formed on three tracks of the optical disk** in address zones A1, A8 and A19. As shown in Fig. 16, forming a mark by laser trimming produces non-reflecting signals on **track number To** (Fig. 16(7)) and **track number To+1** (Fig. 16(8)). Thus, the marking is formed on a track of the optical disk.

Kato, on the other hand, discloses forming an optical disk by laminating two substrates together, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. Kato, however, does **not** disclose or suggest forming a marking on a track of an optical disk.

Wilson discloses laser trimming to remove portions of a reflective layer on an optical disk, as shown in Fig. 1. Wilson discloses forming marking 10 on non-information areas of the disk (col. 2, lines 22-25). As disclosed by Wilson, disk 1 contains information area 3, which contains digital information, and area 7 which is a clamping area and contains no-information. A serial number 10 (marking) is affixed in clamping area 7 (col. 5, lines 24-30). Nowhere in the patent is there any suggestion of tracks disposed in the clamping area of Wilson's optical disk.

Wilson, therefore, does not disclose or suggest forming a marking on a track of an optical disk.

Moreover, the Examiner admits at page 3, bottom paragraph, of the Office Action, that he is unable to find a prior art reference, earlier than November 17, 1994 (applicants' priority date), which discloses forming a barcode (marking) via laser trimming of a reflective layer on an inside track of an optical disk. Reconsideration of claim 12 is respectfully requested.

Although not the same, claim 26 has been amended to include features similar to amended claim 12. Favorable consideration, similar to claim 12, is requested for claim 26.

Newly Added Claims 36 and 37:

Claims 36 and 37 each include features similar to amended claim 12. For example, claim 37 includes:

- **trimming the reflective layer to form a barcode pattern indicating information,**
- **wherein the barcode pattern is formed on a track of the optical disk.**

As stated previously, none of the references suggest a barcode pattern (marking) formed by laser trimming on a track of an optical disk.

Favorable consideration of claims 36 and 37 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,


Allan Rather, Reg. No. 19,717
Jack J. Jankovitz, Reg. No. 42,690
Attorneys for Applicants

JJJ/dlm/lm

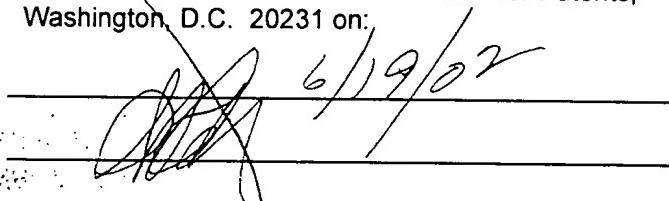
Enclosures: Version with markings to show changes made

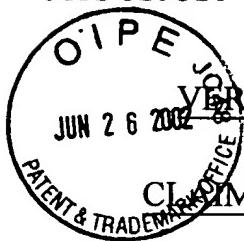
Dated: June 19, 2002

P.O. Box 980
Valley Forge, PA 19482-0980
(610) 407-0700

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents
is hereby authorized to charge payment
to Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any
fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
deposited with the United States Postal Service with
sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope
addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, D.C. 20231 on:


6/19/02



Please cancel claims 28-35.

COPY OF PAPERS
ORIGINALLY FILED

Please amend claims 12 and 26, as follows:

1 12. (Twice Amended) A method of forming a laser marking to an optical
2 disk, comprising the steps of:

3 forming pits indicating data signals readable by light radiation on ~~at least~~
4 ~~one~~ a disk;

5 forming a reflective film to said ~~formed~~ disk;

6 laminating ~~two diskssaid~~ disk and another disk together, ~~said disks~~
7 ~~including at least one disk with said reflective film formed thereon;~~ and

8 trimming the reflective film to form at least one marking by a laser on said
9 reflective film of the ~~laminated disks~~,

10 wherein said marking is formed on a track of said optical disk.

1 26. (Twice Amended) An optical disk having a structure such that at least
2 one reflective film is one of sandwiched directly and sandwiched indirectly
3 between two members formed from material resistant to laser light, comprising:

4 ~~the optical disk having~~ pits indicating data signals readable by light
5 radiation,

6 the reflective film formed on the pits, and

7 at least one marking ~~is~~ formed by a laser to said reflective film, the marking
8 being a low reflective marking,

9 wherein said marking is formed on a track of the optical disk.

Claims 36 and 37 have been added.